

Indonesia-Malaysia Defense Cooperation to Face the Threats of Strategic Environmental Development

Ulfia Nurhasanah Komariah

Graduate Student of Defense Management, Republic of Indonesia Defense University, Indonesia

Abstract: *This study tries to explain the defense cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia in an effort to face the threat of the development of the strategic environment. The development of a strategic environment at the global, regional, and national levels that is increasingly complex and dynamic requires that each country cooperate with one another. Indonesia has established a cooperative relationship with Malaysia since 1957, but currently the literature discussing the cooperation between the two is still limited. Therefore, this research is aimed at defense science treasures in the field of international cooperation. The method used is a library study to analyze how defense cooperation, forms of cooperation and barriers to Indonesia-Malaysia cooperation are used. With the results of research on defense cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia, it is very important to strengthen the defense of the two countries, in the form of cooperation in the form of handling and narcotics, increasing maritime security, defense equipment and the professionalism of the TNI. While the obstacles that occur are the tides of international cooperation caused by conflicts over territorial disputes as well as differences in the legal system and workers.*

Keywords: Defense Cooperation, Indonesia-Malaysia, Threats.

I. INTRODUCTION

The development of the strategic environment at the global, regional and national levels is increasingly complex and dynamic. This can trigger the emergence of threats, as well as obstacles, barriers, and challenges from various sectors including in the fields of Economics, Ideology, Social Affairs, Politics, and Defense and Security both internally and indirectly that can endanger the integrity, identity, and life of the nation and state patriotic. At the level of the external strategy environment, there are changes in the types and forms of conflict that can affect the domestic conditions of a country. Meanwhile, at the level of the internal strategy environment, less than optimal management of political, economic, socio-cultural, environmental, defense, and security aspects can lead to insecurity. [1] The dynamics of the strategic environment shows the complex nature, nature, and form of threats that require tenacity and resilience to strengthen in order to face and overcome the threats of the development of the environmental strategy.

This change in the strategic environmental situation has created problems in the form of traditional and non-traditional threats that can no longer be handled unilaterally by countries in the world. Therefore, countries need to cooperate and depend on each other. [2] The forms of threats include terrorism and radicalism, separatism and armed rebellion, natural disasters, violation of border areas, piracy, and others.[3]

This requires various countries to strengthen their defenses in various ways, one of which is by establishing cooperation between countries. Indonesia itself establishes cooperation with several countries in strengthening defense, one of which is with neighboring countries, namely Malaysia. Indonesia and Malaysia have long historical records ranging from conflicts on borders, territorial disputes, to cultural claims. But behind the disputes and sensitivities between the two countries, Indonesia and Malaysia are actually working together to strengthen their defenses from threats caused by the development of the strategic environment. The Minister of Defense of Indonesia and the Minister of Defense of Malaysia regularly visit each other to strengthen defense cooperation in January 2020 [4]. With the establishment of the Indonesia-Malaysia Cooperation which has lasted for 64 years since Malaysia was free from Japanese colonialism, until now there is still minimal research and literature that reviews the cooperation between the two, especially in the defense sector. Therefore, researchers are interested in researching how the defense cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia is, it is hoped that this research can contribute and become a treasure for Defense Science and can be a recommendation for the two countries to strengthen defense cooperation to face the threat of developments in the strategic environment.

II. Research Methodology

This work was written by utilizing the literature review or literature review approach. Literature review is a research method that entails reviewing previous references, including books and other research findings, to develop a

theoretical foundation for the research subject. This paper also conducting a review of the literature which is a part of the literature review [5]

III. Literature Review

3.1 Indonesia-Malaysia Cooperation

Diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Malaysia have been officially established since August 31, 1957 when Malaysia declared its independence. Indonesia as one of the 14 countries that first recognized Malaysia's independence, immediately raised the status of its Representative Office from the Consulate General to the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia and placed Dr. Mohd Razif (late) as the first Indonesian Ambassador to Malaysia. The relationship between the two nations actually existed long before each country became independent. During the Srivijaya Kingdom in the 7th century to the glory of the Samudera Pasai Kingdom in the 17th century and during the colonial period, relations between residents and kinship have been closely intertwined with each other. That is why until now, it can be traced various descendants from Indonesia who live in Peninsular Malaysia such as Javanese descendants living on the West Coast of Johor, Selangor, Perak. Bugis descendants are scattered on the East Coast of Johor, Pahang and Terengganu. Descendants of Aceh live around Pulau Pinang, Kedah and Perak. The Mandailing Batak descendants are scattered in Selangor and Perak, while the Kerinci descendants live around Pahang and Selangor. Minangkabau descendants are scattered in Negeri Sembilan, Melaka and Selangor and Banjar descendants are scattered in Perak and Pahang. In the early days of bilateral relations, the two countries also experienced an era of confrontation in 1963-1965. But with a far-sighted vision, the leaders of the two countries have taken a wise attitude to quickly restore relations and even become a pioneer in the formation of the ASEAN regional organization, 1967. [6]

In the course of cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia which has existed for 64 years, the relationship that has had ups and downs has become a storyline for cooperation between the two countries. Efforts to increase cooperation that need to be carried out by the two countries include cooperation in the fields of education and training, as well as cooperation in the defense industry. Robert Koahane said that cooperation occurs when actors (state or non-state actors) adjust their behavior to the actual and anticipated preferences of other parties through a policy coordination process. There are two important elements in cooperation. First, the behavior of each actor is directed towards some common goal. Second, cooperation provides the parties with favorable benefits or rewards [7].

Joseph Frankel also said that countries will cooperate if the benefits they estimate outweigh the consequences. In addition, the success of the cooperation will also be determined by the nature and objectives of the cooperation to be achieved. [7] The dynamics of Indonesia-Malaysia interaction can not be separated from their dependence on each other. The benefits of cooperation are greater than the conflicts that occur due to geographical proximity. Kautilya in the Raja Mandala concept said that interactions between countries, whether in the form of conflict or potential cooperation, occur in countries that are geographically close together. Like Indonesia and Malaysia, it can be said that the rhythm of Indonesia-Malaysia relations tends to fluctuate or fluctuate. In fact, the problems that arise can be suppressed if both parties have a strong desire to cooperate in realizing mutual defense and security that does not only focus on the government but the people of the two countries. In the view of the Liberals, under conditions of complex interdependence, this is no longer a problem for two reasons. First, the relationship between these countries is not only or even the relationship of state leaders. Second, there are also hosts of transnational relations between individuals and groups outside the country. [8] Complex interdependencies clearly indicate a much more friendly and cooperative relationship between states. Interdependence is also supported by the emergence of global awareness of problems that surface, which emphasizes that the nation state cannot solve its problems without the help of other countries. In this case, international cooperation is needed because it is evidence of the existence of mutual understanding between nations (international understanding) as a result of the threats posed by the development of the strategic environment.

3. 2 Indonesia-Malaysia Defense Cooperation

The Minister of Defense of the Republic of Indonesia and the Minister of Defense of Malaysia diligently make visits to each other to strengthen Indonesia-Malaysia defense cooperation. Among them the Indonesian Minister of Defense H. Prabowo Subianto received an honorary visit from the Malaysian Minister of Defense H.E. Mr. Haji Mohammad Bin Sabu, Friday (24/1) in the Living Room of the Indonesian Ministry of Defense, Jakarta. This honorary visit was carried out in order to strengthen and improve the defense cooperation between Malaysia and Indonesia which has been well established so far. this is a form of international cooperation in the defense sector. International cooperation is formed because international life covers various fields, such as ideology, politics, economy, socio-culture, environment, defense and security. With these problems, several countries formed an international cooperation. [9] When viewed from its form, defense cooperation is also a formal cooperation between two or more countries, because to carry out such cooperation it uses a non-binding treaty, namely the Defense Cooperation Agreement. or the Defense Cooperation Agreement (DCA). [10] Defense cooperation is a means of developing defense diplomacy to build communication and

mutual trust with other countries. Defense cooperation does not lead to the formation of defense pacts and is more developed in a bilateral cooperation model to build Confidence Building Measures (CBM's), communicate security issues that can be handled together, including to encourage increased national defense capacity and capability. In addition, defense cooperation requires a legal process in the form of an international agreement in the field of defense, namely the Defense Cooperation Agreement (DCA). Improving defense capabilities through defense cooperation is implemented in the form of meeting the needs of the Main Equipment Armament System (ALUTSISTA) and increasing the professionalism of soldiers in the form of cooperation in education and training. [11]

The following are several forms of Indonesia-Malaysia defense cooperation including:

3.2.1 Countering Terrorism and Drug Trafficking

Indonesia and Malaysia have agreed to increase cooperation in dealing with transnational crimes including terrorism and narcotics drug trafficking, as well as monitoring shared borders through cooperation in exchanging information between Indonesian and Malaysian police forces through the signing of a document of understanding (MoU) GBC Malindo (General Border Committee Malaysia-Indonesia). The two countries agreed to exchange information that can be followed up by both parties in law enforcement and crime prevention efforts. The Standard Operating Procedure contains five types of cooperation covering monitoring at sea by Malaysian and Indonesian marine police, communication and handling of criminal cases including cooperation in border monitoring between police in the Malaysian state of Sabah and police in East Kalimantan province, and between police in Sarawak, Malaysia. and the police in West Kalimantan, Indonesia. Monitoring includes if one of the parties arrests a terrorist suspect, it will be handed over to the country concerned, as well as drug smuggling cases that enter the territory of Indonesia and Malaysia. [12].

3.2.2 Maritime security

The maritime security environment, especially in the Southeast Asian region, in the last 10-15 years has undergone very basic changes. This situation is inseparable from the influence of the global security strategic environment where a new phenomenon of threats to world maritime security has emerged and is a real challenge for countries, especially countries that have territorial areas in the form of the sea. It is known that the Southeast Asian region is more limited by territorial waters and its borders still overlap with other countries. The sea area is the main route for the greatest crimes in the world [13] According to Marry Ann Palma, maritime security is defined as the condition of being free of a country from various threats to its national interests at sea. In order to realize maritime security, many countries have formulated various maritime policies and security operations, including Indonesia and Malaysia. One of the security operations efforts is maritime patrols.

The presence of the maritime patrol is a follow-up to the cooperation that has been carried out by Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines previously, the formation of this program is a form of urgency due to the high level of crime in the region at that time the Philippines experienced problems in the Sulu waters. This urges Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines to cooperate in defense and security in the sea area. Piracy in the waters of Sulu not only disturbs the security and interests of the three border countries, but also other areas. This situation prompted the three countries to discuss the Joint Declaration on maritime security. This Joint Declaration outlines four things, namely: First, an agreement to conduct joint patrols between Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. Second, providing assistance to the victims of the attack in Sulu waters. Third, determine focal points in each country to facilitate information sharing networks as well as emergency coordination centers. Fourth, establish a telecommunications network to support emergency situations. [14]

This cooperation was marked by a meeting of three defense ministers during 2016 to 2018. Security threats in the Sulu waters prompted the government of the tree border area country to hold a joint declaration) in Yogyakarta, May 5, 2016. This joint declaration agreed on four things, including adopting coordinated patrols. as a model for trilateral security cooperation. This cooperation model was adopted from the cooperation in the Malacca Strait which proved successful in reducing the number of piracy. This cooperation was later standardized in the Framework on Trilateral Cooperative Agreement between Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. This cooperation is expected to reduce piracy operations and raise the image of tri-border area countries that are considered unable to overcome threats in the Sulawesi-Sulu Sea.

3.2.3 Improvement of defense equipment

Malaysia is a loyal customer of the Indonesian-made aircraft, namely the CN235-220 used by the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) or the Royal Malaysian Air Force (TUDM). As reported by the official website of BUMN, even PT Dirgantara Indonesia gave a Certificate of Completion and Certificate of Competent to the Malaysian Air Force, the certificate submission is part of the Rewiring Program for the CN235-220 aircraft made by PT Dirgantara Indonesia which was acquired by RMAF in 1998 and 1999 ago. In this program,

PT Dirgantara Indonesia cooperates with Transfer of Technology (ToT) to this loyal customer. Because the CN235-220 aircraft has been used by Malaysia for about 20 years. In Indonesia, the CN235-220 aircraft can be used for various missions, such as border patrols and exclusive economic zones, as well as to support search and rescue (SAR) missions. [15]

In this case, the cooperation to improve the Indonesian-Malaysian defense equipment system through the Transfer of Technology Process. Technology transfer, also known as technology commercialization, is the process of transferring capabilities, knowledge, technology, manufacturing methods, manufacturing samples, and facilities, between governments, universities, and other institutions ensuring that scientific and technological developments are accessible to many users. This is important for further development and use into new products, processes, applications, materials and service products. Technology transfer is closely related to the transfer of knowledge.

The technology transfer process has been simplified into four stages described in more detail below [16] :

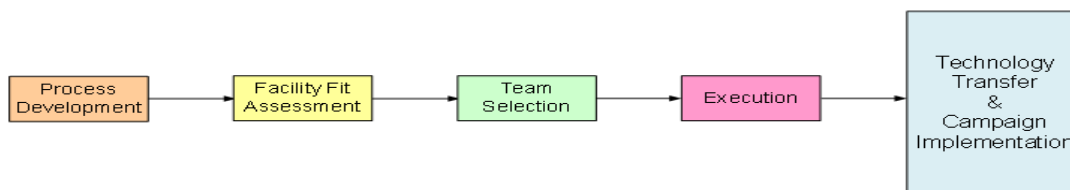


Figure 3.1 The technology transfer process

3.2.4 Increasing TNI's Professionalism

Increasing the professionalism of soldiers in the form of cooperation in education and training is one form of enhancing defense capabilities through defense cooperation. [17] Indonesia-Malaysia defense cooperation in increasing the professionalism of the TNI, one of which was through the visit of the Indonesian Minister of Defense to Malaysia in 2019, the Indonesian Minister of Defense Prabowo Subianto collaborated to improve the professionalism of the TNI by exchanging officers and student exchanges between Indonesia and Malaysia. This collaboration has been carried out between the Indonesian Air Force and the TUDM and is handled by the TPLU.

TPLU is a bilateral cooperation agency in the field of defense between the Indonesian Air Force and TUDM which discusses joint training (Latma), education and reciprocal visits between the two parties. This meeting is regularly held twice a year alternately in both countries. Various joint training activities involving personnel and defense equipment of the Air Forces of the two countries have been carried out, as well as education at the level of Sekkau and Seskoau, Sekbang and SIP, as well as Combat Plunge and SAR courses, including reciprocal visits to increase insight and knowledge of the two countries.[17]

3.3 Barriers to Indonesia-Malaysia Defense Cooperation

In the implementation of cooperation, obstacles or obstacles often arise. The obstacle to Indonesia-Malaysia defense cooperation is that Indonesia-Malaysia bilateral relations often experience ups and downs, which means that diplomatic tensions have occurred several times between these two allied and neighboring countries. the most crucial thing is the release of the islands of Sipadan and Ligitan [18] this has resulted in increased sensitivity between countries. The ebb and flow of Indonesia-Malaysia Cooperation was also influenced by the change of state leaders. Another obstacle to cooperation is the difference in legal systems between countries, as well as the bureaucratic flow that must be passed.

IV. Conclusion

Defense cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia plays a very important role in dealing with complex threats in the midst of the development of the strategic environment. There are several forms of cooperation carried out by Indonesia and Malaysia, including countering terrorism and drug trafficking, strengthening maritime security through joint patrol operations, improving defense equipment by transferring of technology and increasing TNI professionalism through joint training and exchange of soldiers. The obstacles to the Indonesia-Malaysia Defense cooperation are the ups and downs of bilateral relations, differences in the legal system and bureaucracy. So it is necessary to make efforts to maintain the stability of international relations between Indonesia and Malaysia so that there is also a balance in defense cooperation. Basically, cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia can run well as long as the interests between countries do not conflict with each other, avoiding and minimizing various potential conflicts such as regional and cultural conflicts that easily cause friction between countries.

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